

CHAPTER 7

SECTION 20.1

RARE DISEASES

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AUTHORITY: [32 CFR 199.2\(b\)](#) and [32 CFR 199.4\(g\)\(15\)](#)

I. DESCRIPTION

TRICARE defines a rare disease as one which affects fewer than one in 200,000 Americans.

II. POLICY

A. Coverage for treatment of rare diseases may be considered on a case-by-case basis.

B. In reviewing the case, any or all of the following sources may be used to determine if the proposed benefit is considered safe and effective.

1. Trials published in refereed medical literature.
2. Formal technology assessments.
3. National medical policy organization positions.
4. National professional associations.
5. National expert opinion organizations.

C. If case review indicates that the proposed benefit for a rare disease is safe and effective for that disease, benefits may be allowed. If benefits are denied, an appropriate appealing party may request an appeal.

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